

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed March 29, 2007, has been reviewed and carefully considered. Claims 53-55 have been amended. Claims 53-63 are pending in the application.

On page 3 of the Office Action, claims 53-55 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as being directed to an abstract idea.

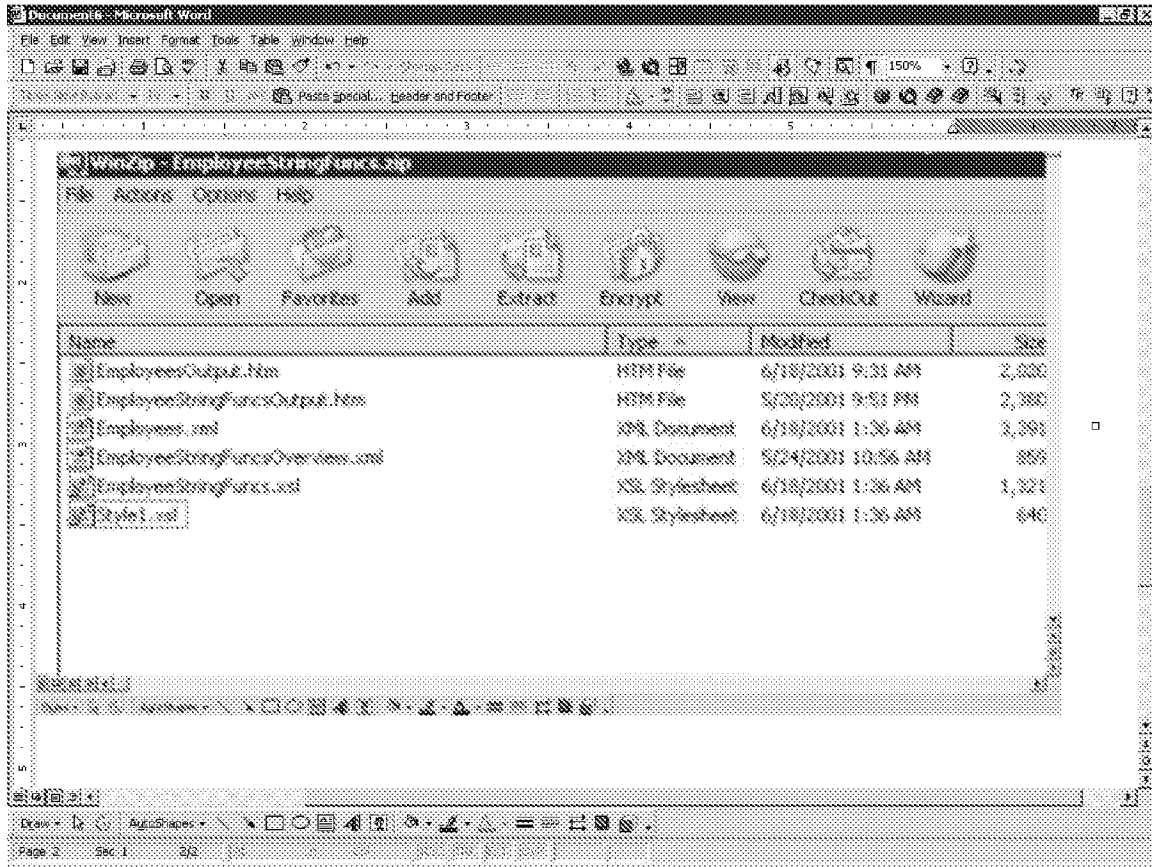
Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection, but in the interest of expediting prosecution have amended claims 53-55 as suggested.

On page 3 of the Office Action, claims 53-59, 61 and 63 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brooke et al. in view of Employees. On page 7 of the Office Action, claims 60 and 62 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brooke et al. in view of Employees, and in further view of Official Notice.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections. Brooke et al. discloses XSL as a formatting template. The Employee example describes the use of a XSL style sheet including tags.

Applicants have clearly shown that stylesheets are cumbersome and do not allow a user to print XML data efficiently and quickly, and that XSL stylesheets are processing-intensive and do not support the needed print speeds. Rather, the embodiments of the present invention recited in the claims provide for printing XML directly using a formatting template,

In contrast, the Employee example merely shows conventional XML documents and conventional XLS stylesheets. A screen shot of the zipped files is shown below.



In the "Type" column, the screen shot clearly shows the files to be HTM files, XML documents and XLS Stylesheets. Moreover, the Office Action stated that the code line `<xsl:for-each select="/employees/employee">` shows the qualified tag of employees and the individual employee is what is being searched. However, the expression "xsl:for-each" finds all "employee" elements in the "employees" element context using the XPath expression "employees/employee". If the selected node contains all elements in the root, all of the "employees" elements will be selected. Thus, the 'for-each' expression is a loop that processes the same instructions for these elements, i.e., the code line `<xsl:for-each select="/employees/employee">` searches for all "employees" elements.

When the `xsl:for-each` expression has selected an “employee” element, the code line `<xsl:value-of select="@EmployeeID" />` is executed. The `xsl:value-of` expression extracts and copies to the output file the value stored in the selected element. In this case, the value stored in the “EmployeeID” element is copied to the output.

Accordingly, the “Employees” reference fails to show qualified tags. For example, the QT for an XMD that is used to format the content for the element `<EmployeeID>` would be `{employees employee employeeID}`. According to the Applicants’ independent claims, whenever a start tag is encountered, e.g. `<last>`, the PSF 450 generates the QT (in this case it is `{person name last}`), and searches the current Data Map 430 for an XMD 432, 434 with matching QT. If a matching QT is found, the content of the element is formatted with an XMD 432, 434.

Accordingly, neither Brooke et al. nor the Employee suggest providing a qualified tag having a concatenation of a plurality of XML start tags representing start tags hierarchically traversed in the XML document to reach the XML data element.

Brooke et al. and the Employee also fail to suggest identifying, using such a qualified tag, an XML Descriptor (XMD) associated with an XML data element of the XML document that can be used for formatting the XML data element.

Accordingly, Brooke et al. and Employee, alone or in combination fail to disclose the limitations recited in claims 53-63.

The Official Notice fails to overcome the deficiencies of Brooke et al. and Employee. The Official Notice is merely cited as disclosing searching, formatting and merging. However, while searching, formatting and merging alone may be well known, Applicants respectfully submit that the specific limitations recited in the claims are not well known. Moreover,

Applicants respectfully submit that the specific limitations recited in the claims are not disclose, taught or suggested by Brooke et al., Employees and Official Notice, taken alone or in combination.

Further, Applicants respectfully traverse the Official Notice.

Applicants respectfully submit that searching a data map comprising XML descriptors identified by an associated qualified tag having a concatenation of a plurality of XML start tags is not well known. Moreover, as described above, Applicants respectfully submit that Brooke et al. and Employee, alone or in combination fail to suggest the use of qualified tags formed by a concatenation of start tags to traverse to arrive at an associated XML descriptor.

Applicants respectfully submit that formatting the XML data element according the XML descriptor associated with the qualified tag is also not well known. Moreover, Applicants respectfully submit that Brooke et al. and Employee, alone or in combination fail to suggest such limitations as described above.

Applicants respectfully submit that merging the XML element associated with the XML descriptor associated with the qualified tag and the XML data element is also not well known. Moreover, Applicants respectfully submit that Brooke et al. and Employee, alone or in combination fail to suggest such limitations as described above.

Applicants respectfully submit that because the data map comprising the qualified tags is used to render an XML document is not well know, or disclosed by Brooke et al. and/or Employee, printing a document using the produced formatted print data stream is also not well known.

In addition, in accordance with MPEP § 2144.03, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to cite a reference in support of the Official Notice. According to MPEP § 2144.03

allegations concerning specific knowledge of the prior art...should be supported and the applicant should be given the opportunity to challenge the correctness of such assertions and allegations. The facts so noticed serve to “fill the gaps” which might exist in the evidentiary showing and should not comprise the principle evidence upon which a rejection is based. MPEP § 2144.03, citing *In re Ahlert* 424 F.2d 1088, 1091, 165 USPQ 418, 420-421 (CCPA 1970).

Applicants respectfully assert that the specific facts asserted herein to be well known, or to be common knowledge in the art are not capable of instant and unquestionable demonstration as being well known. In the present case, assertions of technical facts in the areas of XML descriptors, Qualified Tags, etc. must be supported by citation to some reference work recognized as standard in the pertinent art.

Because the specific limitations identified above regarding, for example, searching a data map comprising XML descriptors identified by an associated qualified tag having a concatenation of a plurality of XML start tags, formatting the XML data element according the XML descriptor associated with the qualified tag, merging the XML element associated with the XML descriptor associated with the qualified tag and the XML data element, and printing a document using the produced formatted print data stream are not well known, and because the Applicants have specifically pointed out the supposed errors in the rejections, Applicants respectfully submit that the finality of the rejection is improper and the Applicants should be afforded an opportunity to rebut any evidence later presented to allegedly support the Official Notice.


Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Brooke et al, Employee and Official Notice, alone or in combination, fail to teach, disclose or suggest the invention as recited in the claims.

On the basis of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the claims are in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration of this application and its allowance are requested.

If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Attorney for Applicant, David W. Lynch, at 423-757-0264.

Respectfully submitted,

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